

To Whom It May Concern: As a regional flight attendant I feel permitting cell phone use during flight is a safety hazard. Vital safety information is already missed due to the use of cell phones prior to departure and upon taxi to the gate. We are safety professionals and we are responsible for each passengers safety. If the elderly woman sitting beside the loud talking, cell phone using man doesn't hear the captain say "please stay seated it's going to be turbulent," she may get up and risk injuring herself as well as anyone else she may come into contact with. Also, what if I myself can't hear an important announcement or page by the flight crew because ten businessmen are trying to outdo the others volume level in an important call. Our passengers have gone this long without being able to use their cell phones, and it hasn't hindered their safety. And now, as they may use them on the taxi in, I already have problems hearing myself talk when the lady in the first row yells into her phone "WE'RE ALMOST AT THE GATE...HUH...YEAH I CAN...MEET ME AT...WHAT?...MEET ME AT THE GATE..." So many accidents have occurred after landing that this added distraction is already a safety issue. In closing, please consider these scenarios and the concerns of a veteran flight attendant as you make your decision whether or not to allow the use of cell phones during flight. Thank you.

Sincerely,

C. Shali Ordonez